



Provider Communication

Subject: Laboratory Services	Priority: High
Date: August 2, 2005	Message ID: ACSBNR08022005_2

Dear Providers,
Laboratory Services

The Department of Community Health must ensure Medicaid providers are in compliance with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) regulations. In order to accomplish this, the Department will be turning on all CLIA exceptions soon.

Only the “holder” of the CLIA certificate can bill for laboratory services. These providers must be enrolled in Georgia Medicaid. This may impact Professional Service providers (COS 430,431, 480, 550, 740 and 790). The clinic or outpatient hospital who performs the lab and has the CLIA certificate will have to bill for the laboratory services. The only Professional Service providers that will be allowed to bill are those providers with a CLIA certificate on their provider file. The only exception is the appropriate use of the 26 modifier which will bypass CLIA logic.

There are two CLIA exceptions. Exception 4301 post when the procedure requires a CLIA certification and the provider file either has no CLIA loaded to their provider number or the CLIA has expired. Exception 4343 post when the provider CLIA certificate type is not appropriate for the procedure code billed. Please reference the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CLIA section for certificate types and how to apply.

Should you have further questions, please call Stephanie Simmons, Program Specialist, at (404) 657 9126.

Sincerely,
Department of Community Health

